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THE ROAD WARRIORS: "WE WANT THE CROCKETT CUP... AGAIN!"

June 1987

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A PWI EXCLUSIVE!
Magnum T.A.'s
Message To His Fans:
"THANK YOU FOR
YOUR PRAYERS"

MAGNUM T.A.'s First Photo
Since His Tragic Car Accident



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Can-Am Can Do!

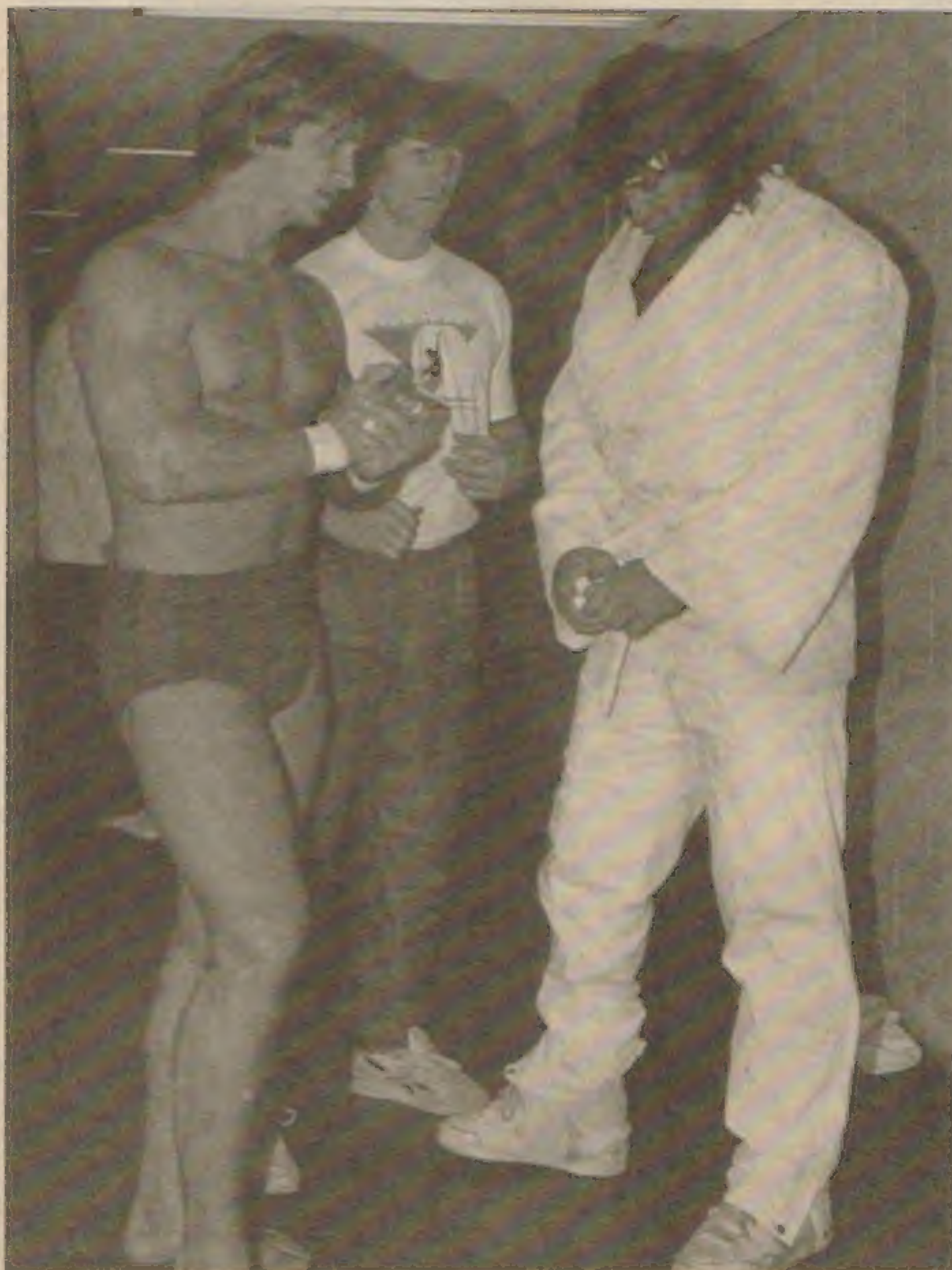
RICK MARTEL AND TOM ZENK LIGHT UP THE WWF!

WHY MICHAEL HAYES IS RUINING TERRY GORDY'S CAREER

PRESS CONFERENCE: SCOTT HALL

RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter



Kerry Von Erich (right) talks with his brothers Kevin (left) and Mike before his comeback in Ft. Worth, Texas. In a triumphant return, Kerry pinned Brian Adias, his old friend who became a rulebreaker. Considering Kerry's condition after his motorcycle accident eight months ago, the comeback was remarkable.

EIGHT MONTHS AFTER nearly losing his life in a motorcycle accident, **Kerry Von Erich** bucked incredible odds and returned to the wrestling ring. The popular Texas star made his triumphant return on February 2, 1987, by pinning former best friend **Brian Adias** in front of a wild-

ly cheering crowd at the Tarrant County Arena in Fort Worth, Texas.

"It was one of the greatest moments of my life," said Kerry. "The doctors said I would never wrestle again, but my faith in God and commitment to beating this thing got me through. But the best part was hear-

ing the cheers of the fans once again. That standing ovation they gave me brought tears to my eyes."

Kerry was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on June 4, 1986, in Denton, Texas, and underwent 20 hours of surgery to repair a dislocated right hip, lacerated right knee, and an open fracture of the right ankle. Von Erich was sent flying off of his motorcycle when he crashed into a police car and, according to authorities, he was lucky to have survived the accident.

But he did survive and returned after a couple of aborted comebacks. Kerry arrived at the arena on crutches but left them behind in the dressing room for his match. As he walked to the ring with **Mike Von Erich**, the crowd rose and gave him a four-minute ovation. As soon as he removed his warmup jacket, he was attacked by Adias.

At about the eight-minute mark, Kerry put a clawhold on Adias, but manager **Gary Hart** ran into the ring and pushed him off. While referee **Rick Hazzard** was reprimanding Hart, Mike Von Erich ran into the ring and smashed Adias. Kerry covered Adias and Hazzard turned around and made the three-count.

There still is some concern, however, that Kerry might have returned too quickly. He wore a brace beneath his warmup pants and obviously wasn't 100 percent fit. But considering where Kerry was in June, it looks like another Von Erich miracle has come to pass.

Remember the winter of 1986 in Florida when **Lex Luger** and **Barry Windham** were at war? Well, the war has started again, this time in the
(Continued on page 52)

KING'S COURT

By Peter King

IT STARTED WITH a phone call. And it ended with one, too. But what went on between may have changed wrestling history.

First, a little background. The Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup Tag Team Tournament is one of the year's biggest wrestling shows. Along with WrestleMania and Starrcade, it is one of the few sports promotions to take in more than a million dollars in revenue. The Crockett Cup also boasts the largest winner-take-all payday in sports, as the winning team gets to divide a million dollars.

it was *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* that determined the seedings for the teams in that tournament. We agreed to rate the teams entered in the tournament in order of their probability of winning the Cup, which is standard practice for any tournament that uses a seeding system to decide who meets whom in a match.

Now, these ratings weren't just an idle token done for show; a million dollars may have been riding on our decisions. You see, the seedings are very important to the outcome. The

top-seeded teams will probably breeze through the first few rounds, remaining fresh and relatively injury-free for the grueling final rounds. The top-seeded team earns not only the bye, but the easiest early-round schedule. Last year's top seed was The Road Warriors. Last year's winners were, not coincidentally, The Road Warriors.

The reason the Warriors were seeded number one by us last year was because we felt they were the best tag team in the sport. We based this decision on their record, their ability, and their devastating power. And no one could disagree.

And now, phone call number one.

In early January, we were contacted by the NWA. They asked us if we would do the seedings for the '87 Crockett Cup. We told them we would be glad to. We feel that no one knows wrestling and wrestlers as well as we do, and we know how important this tournament is to wrestling in general.

For the next few weeks, the staff of *PWI* spent many long nights viewing tapes of all the registered applicants for the '87 Crockett Cup. There were arguments about every seed position except one: the top seed. We were unanimous in believing that that position belonged to The Road Warriors. After all, they are still the number-one rated tag team in *PWI*, they are the defending Crockett Cup champions, and they have not lost a match by pinfall in more than two years. In our minds, and we believe in the minds of all fans, the Warriors are the greatest tag team of today, and may well be the greatest tag team ever.

Finally, in early February, we had completed the seedings. Following night after sleepless night of coffee, pizza, cokes, burgers, and name-calling (I think I remember Eddie Ellner calling Bill Apter "a gutless bald bundle of backboneless baby fat"), an exhausted editorial staff proudly gathered around me as I picked up the speakerphone to call the NWA

(Continued on page 54)



The Road Warriors, winners of the 1986 Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup Tag Team Tournament, receive the cup from Elizabeth Crockett, wife of the late promoter. Peter King explains why *PWI* is not seeding the tournament this year.

This year's Crockett Cup tourney is the second annual one. Some fans may remember the first one, which was held in April 1986 in New Orleans. Fans may also remember that

top eight seeded teams in last year's tournament received byes to the second round. This is a great advantage, because it eliminates the possibility of an upset. It also means that the

WHY MICHAEL HAYES IS RUINING TERRY GORDY'S CAREER



When Terry Gordy forfeited the UWF title to One Man Gang, everybody thought that he would quickly try to regain the belt. *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* has learned, however, that Michael Hayes has been holding back his Freebird partner and now threatens to destroy a once-promising career

ONE SLEEPLESS MORNING, obviously suffering a hangover from the previous evening's activities, Michael Hayes rolled out of bed and headed downstairs to retrieve the morning mail. Upon seeing that the latest copy of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* had arrived, Hayes immediately turned to the ratings pages and checked out the UWF rankings.

That's one possible explanation of why Hayes seems to think that Freebird partner Terry Gordy, and not One Man Gang, is the Universal Wrestling Federation heavyweight champion. A mere mistake, an oversight that could have happened to anyone. Hayes read the ratings and thought he saw Gordy on top.

Or maybe Hayes forgot all about the rather bizarre evening of November 11, 1986, when Gordy was injured in a previous match and couldn't defend his title against One Man Gang. Maybe Hayes forgot that because of Gordy's inability to wrestle, UWF officials stripped him of the title and awarded it to Gang. A mere case of amnesia.

But we all know that this isn't true. Hayes knows very well that Gordy no longer has the UWF title. He talks about it all the time. "Bamm Bamm was robbed of the title and we intend to take this to the highest court," Hayes says, sounding more and more like a broken record. "There's a conspiracy against The Freebirds and I plan on getting to the bottom of it."

So far, there has been no trip to a court of law, not a shred of evidence concerning conspiracy, but plenty of talk. More than three months after the fact, One Man Gang is still UWF champion and Terry Gordy is on the road to nowhere. Blame it on Michael Hayes.

Just listen to him speak. "Bamm



Is Terry Gordy puzzled (above) because fellow Freebird Michael Hayes is misguiding his career? Instead of putting him against UWF champion One Man Gang, Hayes is matching Gordy with contenders like Steve Williams (below).

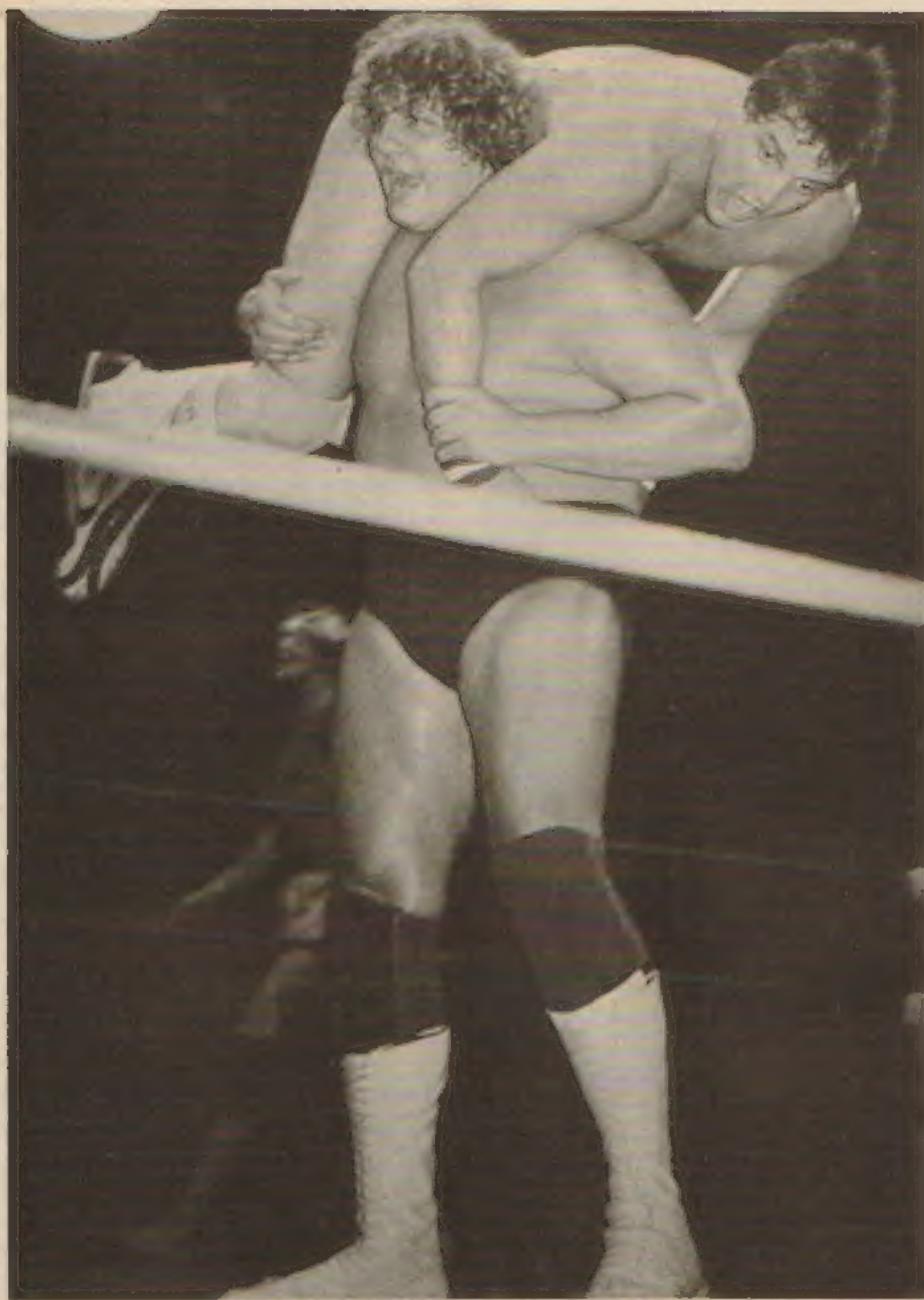


Bamm Gordy is the greatest wrestler in the UWF and we're calling the shots," boasts Hayes. "He's not stepping into the ring unless it's under our conditions, on our terms, and for the right amount of money. If these guys want a piece of Bamm Bamm, they're gonna have to pay for it."

Maybe Hayes *has* forgotten that Gordy is no longer champion. He certainly acts that way sometimes. As the ringleader of The Freebirds, Hayes has taken it upon himself to handle the affairs of Gordy, the youngest member of this notorious threesome. Hayes handles all of Gordy's business affairs and decides when and where he will wrestle.

Thus far, Hayes has kept Gordy on a treadmill. Instead of trying to get revenge against One Man Gang, Gordy has wasted his time wrestling the likes of Steve Williams, Terry Taylor, Ted DiBiase, and the since departed Hack-saw Duggan. He's been offered matches against One Man Gang, but Hayes has always stepped in and fouled things up.

"About a month ago, we called Terry and asked him if he'd like a title match against One Man Gang," said one UWF promoter. "We figured he'd



jump at the chance, but he told us that we'd have to speak with Michael Hayes. Well, we called Hayes and you wouldn't believe it. He wanted us to guarantee Gordy more money than Gang and demanded a no-time-limit, no-disqualification match. Now, Hayes knows that the champion has final say about those things, and we sure as heck weren't going to listen to the demands of a challenger. We haven't called him since."

For some reason, Hayes is treating Gordy, one of the toughest men in wrestling, with kid gloves. A similar situation occurred with boxing heavyweight Gerry Cooney and his manager, Dennis Rappaport. The results were devastating: Cooney's career has been

Gordy catches Chris Adams in an airplane spin (above) and executes a flying bodypress on him (below). By making outrageous demands on UWF officials, Hayes is preventing Gordy from regaining the UWF title and pushing him farther down on the list of contenders.



on hold for the past three years and now looks unsalvageable. For all intents and purposes, Cooney is through.

Now Michael Hayes is ruining Terry Gordy's career. And, naturally, Hayes bristles at the mere suggestion.

"You pencil-pushing geeks don't know what the hell you're talking about," he shouted. "I'm not about to let Bamm Bamm get pushed around. We go into those contract meetings and they offer him squat. They don't seem to realize that they're dealing with a champion, and I'm gonna make sure they know."

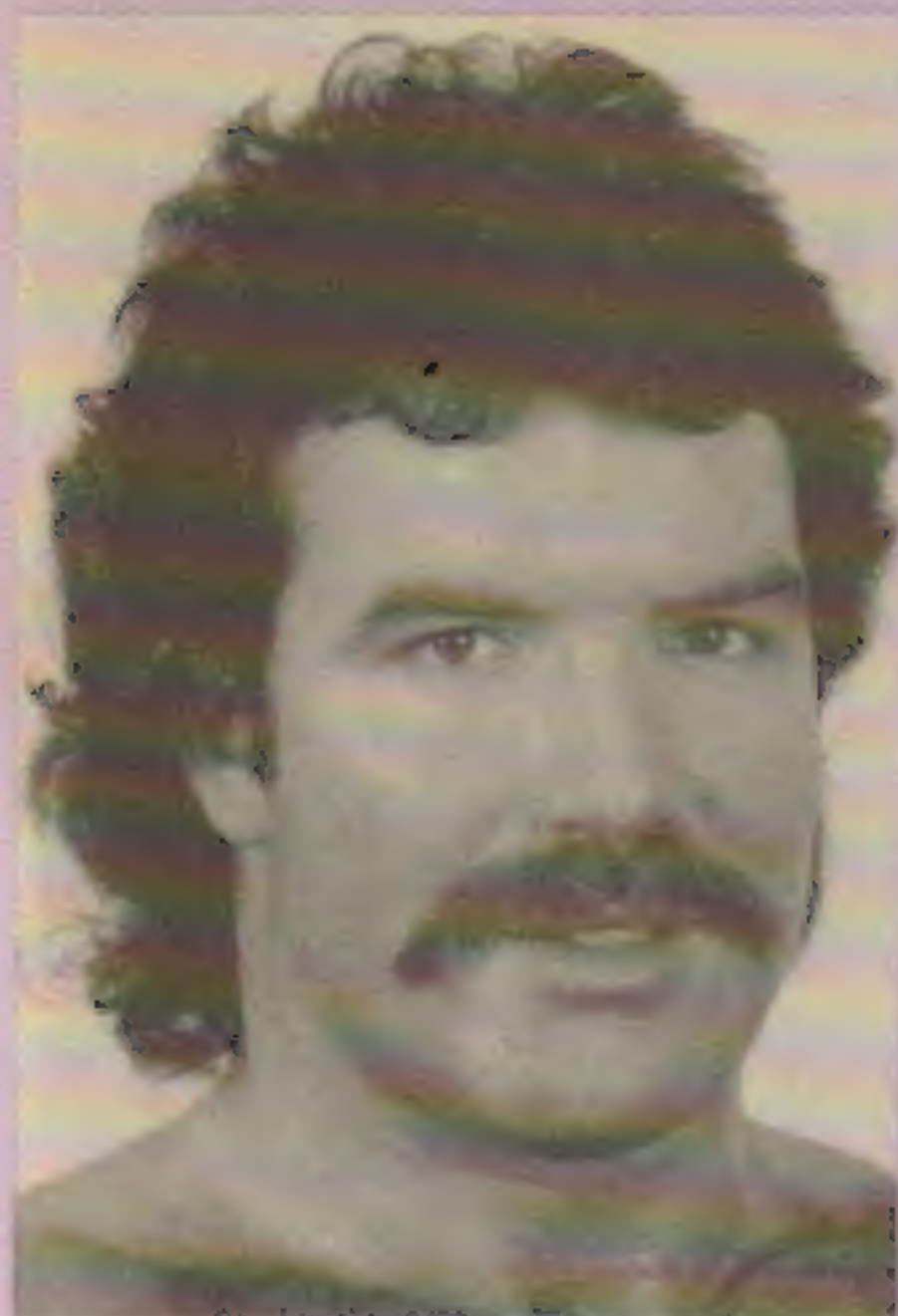
Gordy, in a classic case of blind faith, also feels that Hayes is acting in his best interests. "The Freebirds stick together, baby, and don't you forget it," said Gordy. "Michael goes into those meetings and he sticks up for me. We're not about to forget what happened when they made me forfeit the title. Freebirds don't forfeit nothin'; we had that belt taken away from us. Michael's not gonna let it happen again."

Certainly, Hayes would never intentionally do something that would hurt one of his partners. But he unwittingly managed to push Gordy farther down the line of contenders waiting for a shot at One Man Gang. After losing the belt, Gordy was the number one contender. Since then, Williams, Taylor, and DiBiase have all stepped to the fore.

There's still time to turn things around. The problem might be that The Freebirds have never been able to drum up a serious hatred for One Man Gang. Gang is a rulebreaker. The Freebirds are rulebreakers. Ironically, the best thing that could happen to Gordy would be for Gang to lose the title to one of the fan favorites. Then, Hayes would probably turn Gordy loose at every opportunity.

Until then, Gordy will have to wait while Hayes continues with his fruitless negotiations. It's a shame. While the rest of the UWF contenders take their best shots at Gang, Terry Gordy sits around and rots.

And Michael Hayes is to blame. □



"I decided that I had to leave the AWA. I also decided that wherever I ended up going I'd have just one goal: winning the heavyweight championship."

PETER KING: Well, Scott, I guess the future of the AWA is no longer in your hands. We just did a story in the *Spring Wrestling 87* about some of the sport's young stars ("Sting, Lex Luger, Scott Hall, Crusher Yurkof: Where Will These Men Lead Wrestling In 1987?"), and you were

one of the men we thought would have to carry wrestling over the coming years. Now you're in Florida. Besides the weather, why the switch? **SCOTT HALL:** The weather was only part of the reason, Pete, although I'll tell you, those Minnesota winters can be pretty tough, even on a native.

Back in the AWA, I used to count the days till the Las Vegas shows. Gave me a chance to thaw out, you know. But to answer your question, I'm looking to get my career back in order. Things seem to have gotten out of hand.

CRAIG PETERS: There's no doubt about that. One year ago, when we did our first "Press Conference" with you (June 1986), you had the AWA World tag belts and you were hot on the heels of Stan Hansen. But things fizzled out kind of quickly for you, didn't they?

HALL: I'm not sure fizzled out is the word. I made a mistake. I was real upset when Curt and I lost the belts and that preoccupied my mind for quite a while. Then the whole DeBeers things really sidetracked me. Now, you guys know that I'm not just some big ol' musclehead ...

BILL APTER: You plan to attend med-



Hall whips Chris Champion to the other end of the ring.

(Continued on page 60)

THE ROAD WARRIORS:



"WE WANT THE CROCKETT CUP... AGAIN!"

"HHEY, BOYS, GUESS who's the number one seed for the Crockett Cup? Manny Fernandez and Rick Rude. Whaddya think of that?" said Paul Ellering, and The Road Warriors replied in unison: "Fernandez and Rude are a couple of twerps!"

Ellering sat back in his chair and

laughed. "Hey boss, what the heck are you smiling about?" asked Road Warrior Animal. "Whatsamatter, you like it that those two weasels are number one? Lookit this, right here in this *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* [May 1987]. Road Warriors, number one. Fernandez and Rude, number

three. You tell me what the heck is going on here!"

This time, Ellering didn't laugh, but instead had a knowing smile on his face. The crafty manager knew that this year, unlike 1986, the editors of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* did not determine the seedings for the tournament (see

Despite winning the \$1 million Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Tag Team Tournament last year, The Road Warriors were not named the top seed for this year's edition. But if their anger, desire, and intensity are enough, The Road Warriors are a good bet to repeat in 1987



ing room, knowing that his job had been done by others. As manager, Ellering's main duty is to get The Road Warriors ready for a match and make sure that they are mentally prepared. And although it was still more than two months before the opening round of the tournament, Animal and Hawk were ready to take control of The Crockett Cup before the tournament even started.

While the Warriors continued screaming and yelling inside the dressing room, Ellering took a few moments to go over the just-released top 10 seeds for the tournament. With his usual perceptiveness and insight, Ellering discussed the tournament with the growing crowd of reporters.

"I can see why they're mad," said Ellering, "but I can also see the point of the NWA people. The guys at *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* know that we're number one, but

King's Court, page 10). And he also knew that, after winning the tournament so impressively last year, The Road Warriors would need special incentive to get up for this year's Crockett Cup. Unwittingly, the NWA gave his team that incentive.

The Warriors knew nothing of this. "Get that pencil-necked, gerbil-faced Apter on the blower, Paul," demanded Hawk. "You tell him that we're coming up to New York and we're gonna squeeze his neck like a mop. That backstabbing Apter, one second he tells us he's on our side, and the next thing ya know he's pulling this crap on us."

"Yeah, and you tell him that we're gonna make him and his buddies up there look like geeks," screamed Animal. "You tell him that The Road Warriors are gonna show everyone who the number one tag team in the world is. The Road Warriors are getting mean, man. You tell him that we want the Crockett Cup again and we're gonna get it."

Ellering walked out of the dress-

Paul Ellering informs Hawk that The Road Warriors were not seeded number one in the second annual Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup tag team tournament (above). Hawk dropkicks Ivan Koloff (below). The Warriors may face the team of Koloff and Vladimir Petrov in this year's competition.





Hawk whips Magnum T.A. across the ring (left), and does the same to NWA World champion Ric Flair (above). The Warriors are determined to prove they deserve better than a number-three seeding. To regain the tournament championship, they will have to face competition that could be tougher than it was last year.

in the NWA, Fernandez and Rude are the World champions. Now, I'm not saying I like it, but the NWA would be undercutting their belts if it were any other way. The problem is, by the time the tournament rolls around, we're going to be champs.

"The thing I take exception to is Dusty Rhodes and Nikita Koloff at number two," Ellering continued. "We're all friends with Dusty, but I don't see what they've done to deserve that spot. We haven't lost a match all year and we've earned at least number two. Then you have The Rock 'n' Roll Express at number four, which I think is right, and the Japanese guys (Hiroshi Wajima and Shohei Baba), who I saw in Japan. They're pretty good."

Rounding out the top 10 seeds as of press time were: The Mid-

night Express (No. 6), Ole and Arn Anderson (No. 7), Tully Blanchard and Lex Luger (No. 8), Central States tag champions The M.O.D. Squad (No. 9), and Ivan Koloff and Vladimir Petrov (No. 10).

"If you ask me," Ellering continued, "we're the team to beat. Are you listening to those guys in there? They're absolutely nuts, and they're also the most powerful, most talented tag team in the entire world. They proved it last year and they've been proving it ever since. Get them mad and it's all over."

The Road Warriors positively plowed through the inaugural edition of the \$1 million Crockett Cup last year in New Orleans. After receiving a first-round bye, they defeated Wahoo McDaniel and Mark Youngblood in the second round. Then, in the quarterfinals, the War-

riors won by disqualification over The Midnight Express. After drawing another bye in the semis, they defeated fellow fan favorites Magnum T.A. and Ronnie Garvin in the final round when Animal pinned Garvin.

"And we want that money again," said Ellering. "A million dollars is a considerable prize, but it doesn't go very far these days. Between taxes and investments and the like, we only came out with \$150,000 each in spending money, and most of that went toward training expenses. But we got a taste of big money and we want it again."

There are a number of changes in the format of the Crockett Cup. Last year, the tournament was held in the Superdome in New Orleans, with the opening rounds held in the afternoon and the final rounds

RINGSIDE

(Continued from page 8)

World Championship area. Luger and Windham eventually became best friends in Florida, but things have changed recently.

Windham arrived in the World Championship area first, and when Luger followed a few months later most people assumed that their friendship would continue. But on a recent edition of **World Championship Wrestling** on SuperStation WTBS, **J.J. Dillon** came out with Luger and announced that the former Southern champion had become an associate of **The Four Horsemen**. Windham came out to question Luger and, after grabbing Dillon's tie, was brutally attacked by the two men. The following day, it was revealed that Dillon had advised Luger to buy stock in Tully Blanchard Enterprises.

Luger has made no secret of his desire to join the Horsemen. Dillon insists that he is satisfied with **Ric Flair**, **Ole Anderson**, **Arn Anderson**, and Blanchard, but he has to be impressed by Luger, an incredible physical specimen and 1986's Rookie of the Year. It looks like Lex will become a Horseman shortly.

Dingo Warrior defeated **Bob Bradley** for the Texas title ... **Miguel Perez Jr.** defeated **Bob Heffernan** for the WWC North American title ... Many of the UWF fan favorites continue to be disturbed by the recent attitude of **Terry Taylor**.

With a little help from **Tommy Rich**, **Austin Idol** won the tournament for the Mid-Southern title on February 3 in Memphis, Tennessee. Rich, one of the early favorites, was disqualified in the first round of the one-day, 14-man tournament when he beat up referee **Jerry Calhoun**. Rich's presence was felt for the rest of the night, however. He interfered and helped Idol defeat **Billy Joe Travis** in the first round, **Jeff Jarrett** in the second round, and **Soul Train Jones** in the finals.

Bobby Heenan has a long-running feud with WWF World champion **Hulk Hogan**. **Andre the Giant** wanted a title match against Hogan. And in the final analysis, that's all it took to bring together Heenan and Andre, two men who in the past had made no secret of their hatred for one other. Heenan had run out of trump cards in his campaign to bring down Hogan. And so, with little recourse, he approached Andre and made a startling offer to join forces. Andre, realizing that he is nearing the end of his career, had no choice but

to swallow his pride. He knew that only Heenan could get him a shot at the title. Don't be surprised if, win or lose, Andre splits from Heenan after **WrestleMania III** and tells "The Brain" that he no longer needs his services.

The tournament for the UWF tag team title was scheduled for February 7 in Ft. Worth and we'll have complete results for you in the next issue of **Pro Wrestling Illustrated**. Top-seeded **Steve Williams** and **Ted DiBiase** and second-seed **Terry Gordy** and **Angel of Death** were



Nikita Koloff makes the layup in a basketball game between the World Championship wrestlers and the Charlotte, North Carolina, Police Department. The game was a fundraiser for Charlotte's Police Athletic League. The wrestlers won, 25-21. Dusty Rhodes led the scoring with nine points.



Austin Idol makes his presence known at ringside. Idol is the new Mid-Southern champion after winning a tournament for that title.

the pre-tourney favorites ... **The Midnight Rockers** finally won the AWA World tag belts from **Buddy Rose** and **Doug Somers**. **Marty Jannetty** and **Shawn Michaels** form a talented duo and I'm looking for a long title reign from them.

The basketball game between the World Championship area wrestlers and the Charlotte Police Department raised \$13,721 for the Charlotte Police Athletic League. Led by **Dusty Rhodes'** nine points and **Barry Windham's** 15 rebounds, the wrestlers won the game, 25-21. Twenty-five points? Stick to wrestling, boys!

That's all for now. See you at the matches. □

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(Continued from page 10)

After he answered the phone, I cleared my throat and began to read off the seedings. "Number one seed: The Road Warriors. Number two seed: Dusty and . . ." I stopped because I heard him repeating over and over, "No good. No good."

"The Warriors can't be number-one seed," he said. "Didn't I tell you? The NWA has decided that the number one seed in the tournament must be the NWA World tag team champions. That means that Fernandez and Rude are number one. But

"The NWA has decided that the number-one seed in the tournament must be the NWA World tag team champions," repeated the voice of NWA bureaucracy. "That means that Fernandez and Rude are number one."

As strongly as we feel that The Road Warriors should be the top-seeded team in the tournament, we can certainly understand that the NWA wants its champions to be put in that prestigious position. But if we are to make the seedings, we are going to do one through 24, not two



you can do the seedings for the rest of the teams."

There were about 30 seconds of amazed silence. Finally, I was able to speak. "If *PWI* is doing the seedings for this tournament, then the *PWI* reputation is on the line. We will seed them in the order we believe to be correct, and, quite frankly, no one here—or in the entire world, for that matter—believes that Manny

And as much as we would have liked to do the seedings for the Crockett Cup this year and in years to come, we felt that maintaining our independence was far more important to the future of this magazine.

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ROAD WARRIORS

(Continued from page 41)



The Warriors pose with the 1986 Crockett Cup and Ellering displays the \$1 million check that went to the winners.

at night. This year, the tournament will be held at the Baltimore Arena (formerly the Civic Center) with the opening rounds scheduled for April 9 and the final rounds April 10.

There is also a slight change in format. Last year, tag teams from several different areas competed in the tournament. The 1987 Crockett Cup will be restricted to World Championship, Central States, and Japanese tag teams. Many fans have expressed disappointment in this format, but most federations will no longer allow their wrestlers to compete in mixed events.

Despite this, the competition should be incredible. The finest tag teams in the World Championship area have already declared that they will be in the tournament, and the incentive of seeing rule-breakers wrestle rulebreakers and fan favorites wrestle fan favorites should be enough to pack the 15,000-seat arena.

There's also the incentive of seeing if The Road Warriors can accomplish what would be one of the most incredible feats in wrestling history and repeat as Crockett Cup champions. They couldn't be any more determined to do so.

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PRESS CONFERENCE

(Continued from page 31)

ical school after your wrestling career is over?

HALL: Exactly, and I'm usually able to keep myself going in the right direction, but the hatred and stupidity coming out of DeBeers' mouth really enraged me, and then when he implied that I was just like him and should join him in his awful task, well, I just lost it. The tag belts, the World championship, Bockwinkel, nothing meant anything to me. Only DeBeers. I'd go to bed at night thinking of ways to get him, but then one night I couldn't fall asleep and realized I was wasting my time.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: What do you mean, Scott?

HALL: Well, when I beat DeBeers, I really didn't win anything. I wasn't shutting him up, because you can't silence a person like him. He's not going to change his ways, but then again, one person like DeBeers isn't going to pose a threat to mankind. He's better off ignored. But by this time, I was hardly a top contender for the AWA title and the whole tag team thing with Curt had come apart.

ROSENBAUM: And then you left the AWA and took some time off. What did you think about during this time that you weren't wrestling?

HALL: The first thing I did was decide I wanted to wrestle. That was important, because I was doubting myself for a while. Then I decided that I had to leave the AWA. I just had to leave that part of my career behind me. I also decided that wherever I ended up going, I'd have just one goal: winning the heavyweight championship. You know, very little else matters in this sport.

KING: Sounds to me like adversity has matured Scott Hall. It also looks like you made the right move. I'm sure you've heard of a man named Lex Luger.

HALL: Of course. Even though he's now in the World Championship area,



Hall and Curt Hennig were the AWA World tag team champions during the early part of 1986.

he's still like a legend down here.

KING: Which is amazing because he's only been around for a little more than a year. To get to my point, you two guys are very similar in size build, and wrestling style. In fact, you're also very similar in talent. As you said, Luger was a major star down here, but now he's left for the World Championship area. Think you can take his place?

HALL: Let me just say this, Peter. I appreciate the comparisons to Luger, because he was Southern champion and I've heard great things about him. But I'd rather be known as my own man. Before long, the people down here will have forgotten all about Lex Luger because they'll be talking about Scott Hall. And they're gonna love me when I take that Southern title from Kevin Sullivan.

PETERS: Funny, but Sullivan is strange in many of the ways that DeBeers is strange. DeBeers was a racist and Sullivan has a history of being a devil-worshipper. You seem to run into some pretty strange individuals, don't you?

HALL: Well, there's certainly no shortage of weirdos in this sport. Don't forget, though, that Sullivan is a very fine wrestler and he's been around. The only thing is that I've got it all over him in size and speed and that's something that he's just not going to be

able to deal with. Besides, Sullivan always seems to have his mind on other things when he's wrestling. Another wrestler I have my eyes on, Craig, is Bad News Allen.

APTER: The funny thing about Bad News is that when you look at him, you'd never know that he has such a wide range of skills in the martial arts, but the man is very practiced. He really gave Luger headaches.

HALL: A man like Allen can be tricky, because of his wide repertoire of moves. But you

know what really makes Allen tough? It's that Sir Oliver Humperdink and all his outside interference tactics. That's what really gets me, when managers interfere.

ROSENBAUM: So how do you plan on dealing with Humperdink? The guy just never seems to go away!

HALL: It's incredible, because the man is really an outcast, but he just causes so much trouble. I heard about that match where he turned out the lights, and then there was the time that he and his men attacked Luger during a match against Ric Flair. He's everywhere, but I think the best way to deal with him is to just ignore him. Humperdink is gonna be trouble no matter what I do.

KING: Scott, you're a newcomer to the Florida area and I'm sure the fans want to know a little more about you. Can you tell the fans what they should expect from Scott Hall?

HALL: My pleasure. Scott Hall is a hard-working wrestler who will always give the fans their money's worth. You can always depend on me to never turn my back on the fans, because I've found that following the rules is the best way to go. I work out every day, I'm always trying to improve my skills, and I'd just like to say that when I finally do win a title down here, I'll be a champion you can be proud of. That's all I can say. □



This special feature is for all fans who want to know who won and who lost . . . and how. *Pro Wrestling Illustrated* will print eyewitness reports from correspondents who attend the matches. If you'd like to have your correspondent report printed in the world's largest-selling wrestling magazine, send it to: *Arena Report*; *PWI*, Box 48; Rockville Centre, NY 11571.

BLAISDELLE CENTER (Honolulu, HI): Superfly Tui won \$25,000 and the World Pacific Wrestling title by climbing a 30-foot long pole in a 20-man battle royal . . . Adrian Street beat Mr. B . . . Bruiser Brody & Superfly Tui beat Kevin Sullivan & Mark Lewin . . . Tor Kamata & Hiro Sasaki beat Strong Machines I & II . . . The Samoan Connection beat Dusty Wolf & Alex Knight . . . Debby Combs beat Donna Day . . . The Medic beat Miro . . . Joe Solo and Robert Toronto wrestled to a draw.

—Isaac Martinez

BROWN COUNTY ARENA (Green Bay, WI): Mr. Saito pinned Buck Zumhofe . . . Scott Hall defeated Buddy Wolfe . . . Sherri Martel pinned Candi Divine . . . Super Ninja pinned Nick Bockwinkel in a non-title match . . . Col. DeBeers pinned Jimmy Snuka in a no-disqualification match . . . The Midnight Rockers defeated Buddy Rose & Doug Somers in a non-title steel cage match.

—Michael Bair

CAPITAL CENTRE (Landover, MD): Randy Savage defeated Rick Steamboat by disqualification when George Steele interfered . . . Davey Boy Smith & Blackjack Mulligan beat The Hart Foundation . . . Junkyard Dog and Harley Race battled to a double-countout . . . The Killer Bees defeated Cowboy Bob Orton & Magnificent Muraco . . . Dino Bravo beat Billy Jack Haynes by countout . . . George Steele pinned The Iron Sheik . . . Hercules Hernandez defeated Lanny Poffo . . . Ron Bass pinned S.D. Jones.

—Ben Brodsky

FREEDOM HALL CIVIC CENTER (Johnson City, TN): Denny Brown and Hector Guerrero battled to a draw . . . Baron Von Raschke defeated Gary Royal by submission . . . Manny Fernandez pinned Ricky Lee Jones . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express pinned Ole & Arn Anderson . . . Nikita Koloff defeated Tully Blanchard . . . Road Warrior Animal won a \$20,000 bunkhouse stampede.

—Jason Harris

GREENVILLE MEMORIAL AUDITORIUM (Greenville, SC): Nikita Koloff won by disqualification over Ric Flair . . . Tully Blanchard beat Dusty Rhodes by disqualification . . . Rick Rude & Manny Fernandez beat The Rock 'n' Roll Express . . . The Road Warriors & Barry Windham beat The Midnight Express & Big Bubba . . . Ron Garvin and Arn Anderson battled to a time-limit draw . . . Tim Horner beat Thunderfoot I . . . Ricky Lee Jones pinned Brodie Chase.

—Scott Keeler

GROVE FOOTBALL FIELD (Grove, OK): Steve Williams & Ted DiBiase beat Michael Hayes & Buddy Roberts . . . Terry Taylor defeated John Tatum . . . Rick Steiner pinned Jeff Gaylord . . . Joe Savoldi beat Gustavo Mendoza.

—Jerry Haggard

HOLLYWOOD SPORTATORIUM (Hollywood, FL): Ric Flair beat Dusty Rhodes by disqualification . . . The Road Warriors beat The Midnight Express in a scaffold match . . . Nikita Koloff pinned Tully Blanchard . . . Barry Windham defeated Arn Anderson . . . Brad Armstrong pinned Jimmy Garvin . . . Jimmy Valiant beat Shaska Whitley . . . Denny Brown and Hector Guerrero battled to a time-limit draw . . . Tim Horner pinned Ricky Lee Jones.

—John Dorland

LAKEVIEW ARENA (Marquette, MI): Nikita Koloff beat Ric Flair by disqualification . . . The Midnight Express & Bubba Rogers defeated The Road Warriors & Baron Von Raschke . . . The Rock 'n' Roll Express beat Ole & Arn Anderson . . . Barry Windham pinned Ivan Koloff . . . Bob Morgan defeated Pancho . . . Larry Wilson beat Art Snow.

—J.D. Star

MAPLE LEAF GARDENS (Toronto): Hulk Hogan defeated Kamala in a steel cage match . . . Jake Roberts and King Kong Bundy battled to a double-countout . . . Junkyard Dog & Davey Boy Smith beat The Hart Foundation . . . Koko B. Ware and Magnificent Muraco wrestled to



a draw ... Greg Valentine & Brutus Beefcake defeated Mike Rotundo & Danny Spivey ... George Steele won by disqualification over Johnny V when The Honky Tonk Man interfered ... Dino Bravo beat Scott McGhee ... Paul Roma pinned Barry O ... Jose Luis Rivera defeated Terry Gibbs.

—Steve Argintaru

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN (New York): Hulk Hogan pinned Kamala in a no-disqualification match ... Billy Jack Haynes & Davey Boy Smith beat The Hart Foundation ... Rick Martel & Tom Zenk beat Greg Valentine & Brutus Beefcake ... Junkyard Dog defeated Harley Race by countout ... Paul Orndorff won by disqualification over George Steele ... Tiger Chung Lee pinned Jerry Allen ... Ron Bass pinned S.D. Jones ... Lanny Poffo beat The Red Demon ... Brad Rheingans pinned Frenchy Martin.

—Richard Claypoole

MISSISSIPPI COAST COLISEUM (Biloxi, MS): Jack Victory pinned Ken Massey ... Chavo Guerrero and Eddie Gilbert battled to a draw ... Buddy Roberts & Angel of Death defeated The Fantastics ... Savannah Jack defeated Sting ... Hacksaw Jim Duggan & Terry Taylor defeated Wild Bill Irwin & Bad Leroy Brown.

—Alfie Sumrall

OAKLAND COLISEUM (Oakland, CA): Hulk Hogan pinned Kamala ... Billy Jack Haynes beat Jake Roberts by countout ... The Junkyard Dog won by disqualification over Adrian Adonis ... The Killer Bees defeated Nikolai Volkoff & The Iron Sheik ... The Honky Tonk Man pinned S.D. Jones ... Jerry Allen beat Steve Lombardi ... The Karate Kid & Little Coco defeated Little Tokyo & Lord Littlebrook.

—Jon Olson

OHIO CENTER (Columbus, OH): Brad Rheingans defeated Barry O ... Koko B. Ware pinned Tiger Chung Lee ... Hercules Hernandez beat Siva Afi by submission ... Blackjack Mulligan defeated Jim Neidhart ... Davey Boy Smith pinned Brett Hart ... Kamala defeated Hillbilly Jim ... Randy Savage & The Honky Tonk Man defeated Rick Steamboat & George Steele by disqualification.

—Bill Reed

PHILADELPHIA CIVIC CENTER (Philadelphia): The Road Warriors beat The Midnight Express in a scaffold match ... Ric Flair and Nikita Koloff were both counted out ... Tully Blanchard defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification ... Jimmy Garvin defeated Brad Armstrong in a Texas death match ... Barry Windham pinned Arn Anderson ... Dick Murdoch & The Rock 'n' Roll Express beat Shaska Whatley, Rick Rude, & Manny Fernandez ... Ron Garvin and Ivan Koloff wrestled to a time-limit draw ... Vladimir Petrov destroyed Tim Horner.

—Tony Felice

ST. PAUL CIVIC CENTER (St. Paul, MN): The Midnight Rockers pinned Buddy Rose & Doug Somers in a non-title cage match ... Col. DeBeers won by disqualification over Jimmy Snuka ... Nick Bockwinkel won by disqualification over Curt Hennig ... Larry Zbyszko, Super Ninja, & Mr. Saito defeated Scott Hall, Greg Gagne, & Leon White by pinfall ... Boris Zukhov pinned Steve O ... Earthquake Ferris pinned Brian Knobbs ... Buck Zumhofe drew with Buddy Wolfe.

—Dan Luckner

TOWNSEND HIGH SCHOOL GYM (Townsend, TN): The Spoilers beat Clint Dixon & James Blevins ... Ron Sexton & Dave Casteel defeated Cowboy Bob Ellis & The Samoan ... Little Squaw beat Brickhouse Vicki Combs ... Tim Horner & Kenny Hall beat Chris McNew & Rick Connors ... Clint Dixon pinned The Crippler ... Toni Moore & Vern Starsky beat Bodacious & Superfly.

—David Crisp

RECAP: WWF World champion Hulk Hogan has dominated his matches with Kamala and it looks like the Ugandan Giant's challenge is fading fast ... The Road Warriors and Barry Windham formed a six-man tag team for a match in Greenville, South Carolina ... NWA World champion Ric Flair and Nikita Koloff have yet to reach a pinfall finish in any of their matches ... Adrian Street appeared in Hawaii for a card ... The Randy Savage-Rick Steamboat war continues to heat up across the country, but neither wrestler has been able to establish any kind of dominance ... A few quick notes on "Arena Reports." First, we're sorely lacking results from the World Class, UWF, AWA, and Florida areas. Also, please try to send in your results as soon after the matches as possible; outdated results cannot be used. □

JIM NEIDHART INDICTED

WWF Tag Team Champion Faces 20-Year Sentence After Airline Incident

PITTSBURGH, PA—Jim Neidhart, one-half of the WWF World tag team champions The Hart Foundation, was indicted by a federal grand jury here January 28 on charges of assaulting and interfering with a flight attendant. Neidhart was to be arraigned on February 6 in the United States District Court.

Neidhart faces a maximum sentence of 20 years and 6 months and fines totalling \$275,000 if convicted of both charges. The offense is more serious because it took place while the airplane was in flight.

Neidhart boarded USAir Flight 40 in Tampa, Florida, and punched Ava Winston four or five times on the left arm when she refused to serve him.



WWF World tag team champions Brett Hart and Jim Neidhart wait for their opponents. Neidhart also has problems outside the ring: he has been indicted on charges of assaulting a flight attendant on board a USAir flight en route to Pittsburgh. "The Anvil" faces a maximum sentence of 20 years and six months.

FBI special agent Jeff Kimball told the Associated Press. Neidhart was arrested by FBI officials when he got off the plane in Pittsburgh and was released the following day after posting \$10,000 bond.

Bradley Barbin, an Assistant U.S. Attorney, would not comment on the case. Jerry McDevitt, one of the lawyers representing Neidhart, said that he wanted to avoid any publicity before the actual trial because his client is so well known. He refused to comment further.

A trial date has been set for March 16. Neidhart and partner Brett Hart are scheduled to appear at WrestleMania III just 13 days later in Detroit. The World Wrestling Federation had no official comment on the matter.

Hall, Armstrong Denied Tag Title



Scott Hall and Steve Armstrong won a title match but failed to win the Florida tag belts because they didn't sign a proper contract.

By CRAIG PETERS

ST. PETERSBURG, FL—Just moments after defeating Chris Champion and Sean Royal for the Florida tag team title, Scott Hall and Steve Armstrong had the belts taken away by area officials.

Hall and Armstrong were last-minute substitutes for The Fabulous Ones and had not signed a contract making them eligible to win the belts.

Hall and Armstrong already had the belts around their waists and were celebrating when Florida official Danny Miller came into the dressing room and told them the bad news. An enraged Hall pounded his fists against the door of his locker and had to be subdued by his partner.

"It's our fault that we weren't careful enough to sign the contract, but these little technicalities really get me mad," said Hall. "Why didn't Miller come to us before the match and make sure we had signed the contract? With all the rushing to get ready for the match, Steve and I really never thought about the paperwork. We thought we were doing them a favor by substituting."

Adias, Madril Ripoff Kevin Von Erich

By STU SAKS

FT. WORTH, TX—Wrestlers often complain that they were robbed of a match by the referee. But Kevin Von Erich was actually robbed by his opponent after a recent match here—robbed of \$30,000!

In late January, Brian Adias and Al Madril teamed to win a \$30,000 battle royal by dumping Kevin Von Erich over the top rope. A few weeks later Kevin, the World Class heavyweight champion, took on Madril in a title vs. \$30,000 match. Adias gave his half of the money won in the battle royal to Madril to use in the match, and a suitcase was filled with the \$30,000 and placed at ringside.

Von Erich won the match, but Ma-

dril got back up and attacked him from behind. Then Adias grabbed the suitcase, ran into the ring, hit Kevin over the head, and ran back to the dressing room with Madril and the money.

"That money is ours and we're not giving it back," said Adias. "After all the Von Erichs have taken from me, there's no way they're getting my hard-earned money. We won that battle royal to get this and you can't tell me that his measly title is worth \$30,000. That was an unfair match."

"The money doesn't bother me," said Von Erich, "because I've got plenty of that. But those guys are a pair of thieves and I'm gonna prove that crime doesn't pay."

Flair-Windham Match Signed For Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Cup

By BILL APTER

BALTIMORE, MD—NWA World champion Ric Flair and top contender Barry Windham have signed to wrestle on the Jim Crockett Sr. Memorial Crockett Cup card April 10 at the Baltimore Civic Arena. The tournament will begin on April 9 with the first and second rounds. The finals will be held the following night.

"The greatest tag team tournament in the world deserves a great singles match," said promoter Jim Crockett Jr. "Barry Windham and Ric Flair have taken their battle all over the World Championship area, thrilling fans wherever they go, and the \$1 million Crockett Cup is the perfect setting for another rematch. This match would be an outstanding main event at

any arena in the world."

At last year's Crockett Cup, Flair defeated Dusty Rhodes by disqualification.

Windham, a newcomer to the World Championship area, has wrestled Flair on several occasions without a decisive finish. Windham, however, has dominated the majority of these matches and many NWA observers feel that he is very close to winning the belt.

"When we step into the ring on April 10 in Baltimore, it's gonna be NWA World champion Barry Windham against challenger Ric Flair," said Windham at the contract signing. "Flair's time is running out fast cause I'm right on his tail and I'm gonna catch him."

AROUND THE GLOBE

TOKYO, JAPAN

Fans of New Japan Pro Wrestling here are calling it the feud of the year: Tatsumi Fujinami and Kengo Kimura, who formerly held the IWGP tag team title, are battling each other in a series of matches that have sold out arenas all over Japan. Kimura has reportedly been seeing a kick boxing specialist to help improve his skills in being able to knock Fujinami out. A tournament will be scheduled to determine new IWGP tag champions in the near future.

CALGARY, ALBERTA

Rookie sensation Owen Hart is locked in a bitter war with Viet Cong Express I with Hart's IWA mid-heavyweight championship on the line. Hart has been hailed by many wrestling experts as potentially the high-flying star of the 1990s, in that he fearlessly executes high-risk maneuvers from the top ropes during most every match. Hart, along with Ben Bassarab, feuded with Viet Cong Express I and II. In that feud, Express II was injured, and their war has spilled over into singles matches.

NAGASAKI, JAPAN

NWA World champion Ric Flair traveled here to meet with officials of All-Japan Pro Wrestling and firm up the details of a contract that will see NWA World title defenses against at least five opponents in a seven-day period. Already signed to wrestle Flair are Riki Choshu, Jumbo Tsuruta, Tiger Mask, Genichiro Tenryu, and Yoshiaki Yatsu. Reportedly negotiating to fill one open contract remaining with Flair are Hiroshi Wajima, Takashi Ishikawa, and Animal Hamaguchi.